

## **News Release**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Paula L. Pedene APR, Public Affairs Officer 650 East Indian School Road, Phoenix, AZ

Work: (602) 222-2667, Pager: (602) 779-3534

After Hours: (480) 368-8714

e-mail: Paula.Pedene@med.va.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 22, 2005

## VA Secretary To Visit and Tour Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jim Nicholson will tour and visit the Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center in Phoenix, Ariz. on Tuesday, March 22.

Before heading the Department of Veterans Affairs, Secretary Nicholson served as U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See in Rome. Secretary Nicholson is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., and a decorated Vietnam veteran with 30 years of active and reserve military service.

Secretary Nicholson directs the federal government's second largest department, responsible for a nationwide system of health care services, benefits programs and national cemeteries for America's 25 million veterans.

## **Schedule of Events**

Date: March 22, 2005

Time: 12:00 - 2:00p.m

Place: Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center, 650 East Indian School Road, Phoenix, Ariz.

Media Availability: 2:00 - 2:15 p.m.

The Carl T. Hayden Veterans Affairs Medical Center has been serving veterans in Maricopa County since 1951. We are a level one tertiary care facility that offers a variety of services to more than 50,000 veterans. We currently have 150 inpatient beds for medical and surgical patients, 110 beds for nursing home patients and 48 inpatient beds for mental health patients. We are actively involved in training new medical and surgical residents to become certified physicians and are committed to medical research to help find cures for illness and disease. We are honored to serve our veterans.